

ENVIRONMENTAL HEARINGS OFFICE

Minutes of Meeting May 12, 2009 9:00 a.m.

The May 2009 meeting was called to order by Chair Kathy Mix in the Boards' office in Lacey, Washington. Present were Chair Kathy Mix, Board Member William Lynch, Administrative Appeals Judges Kay Brown, Phyllis Macleod and Cassandra Noble, Administrative Manager Robyn Bryant, Hearings Coordination Debbie Joblonski and Administrative Secretary Janet Buechler. Minutes of the April 2009 meeting were read and approved as amended.

Handouts were distributed for review which included the pollution, shoreline, forest practice, hydraulic, and environmental and land use appeals filed, a brief summary of all cases that have closed and the Case Statistics Report. There was a short discussion on the number of open cases in comparison to previous years.

Appellate Update

Chair Kathy Mix reported that there was one new Superior Court Appeal filed since the last meeting in April, *Walt Cox v. Ecology*; and the *Herman v. Ecology* previously appealed to the Court of Appeals has been appealed to the Supreme Court.

Financial Update

Robyn Bryant reported that there were no new budget issues to report on. The quarterly meeting with our representatives from the Office of Financial Management is scheduled and the budget matters for the new biennium will be discussed at that meeting.

Miscellaneous Clerical Issues

The Document Filing Information Sheet which will be sent out with the initial scheduling order was approved.

The issue of removing parties from the original caption after they had been dismissed was again discussed and it was agreed that the caption would not change when a party was dismissed from the case.

The subject of adding the names of the outside Shorelines Hearings Board members to the EHO website was brought up. It was discussed and agreed to by all present that the names and short biographies will be added.

Senate Bill 6165

Bill Lynch discussed the passage and implementation of Senate Bill 6165 giving the Shorelines Hearings Board authority to use a short board in more instances. Bill, Kay Brown and Phyllis Macleod were present for the signing of the bill on May 8, 2009. The legislation takes effect on July 25, 2009. It was noted that the new bill necessitates a rule change. Kay will begin the necessary work on the change.

A notice of the change will be posted on the website. Cassandra and Bill will draft the notice for the website.

Kathy will follow up with thank you letters to the legislative members and staff who assisted in getting the bill to finalization.

Additional Business

Bill brought up several new bills that were also recently passed: 1) requesting agencies to target a reduction in paper use by 30% by July 1, 2010 and set a goal of recycling 100% of all copy and printing paper in buildings with twenty-five or more employees; 2) requiring all state agencies to purchase 100% recycled content copy/printer paper by December 31, 2009; 3) requiring that each agency report annually to the governor and the legislature for posting for the public on the department of personnel website information concerning the number of classified, Washington management service and exempt employees, bonuses and performance-based incentives and the cost of such bonuses or incentives; 4) that customary business hours for an agency must be posted on its website and any other means designed to provide notice to the public.

Phyllis passed around information about a Women's Wellness Fair being held on May 13th at the L&I Building.

The office retreat is tentatively scheduled for August 17th.

Meeting adjourned.

Janet Buechler
Administrative Secretary